

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Introduction:

Claims 22-24, 40, and 55 are amended, and claims 1-21 and 41-51 are canceled. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 22-40 and 52-57 will be pending, although claims 52-54 are withdrawn. Claims 52-54, however, depend from what should be a clearly allowable claim. Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be entered and the application reexamined and reconsidered.

Amendments Clearly Place Application In Condition For Allowance:

As an initial matter, this Amendment should be entered because, as discussed more fully below, the Amendment clearly places the application in condition for allowance. (See MPEP § 714.12.) Specifically, claims 23, 40, 47, and 55-57 were identified in the final Office Action as containing allowable subject matter. The recitations of claim 47 have been written into claim 22—the independent claim from which claim 47 directly depended. Claim 22 should therefore clearly be in condition for allowance. In addition, claim 40 and claim 55 have been rewritten in independent form to include the recitations of claim 22, which is the independent claim from which claim 40 and claim 55 directly depended. Claims 40 and 55 should therefore clearly be in condition for allowance. All other pending claims depend from one of claim 22, claim 40, or claim 55 and should therefore also clearly be in condition for allowance.

Withdrawn Claims Depend From Allowable Independent Claim And Should Be Rejoined:

Applicants request that withdrawn claims 52-54 be rejoined and allowed. Claims 52-54 now depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 22, which as discussed above, is clearly in condition for allowance. As set forth in the MPEP, claims 52-54 should therefore be rejoined and allowed. (MPEP 809, pg. 800-48 ("Any claim(s) . . . previously withdrawn from consideration, which depends from or includes all the limitations of the allowable linking claim must be rejoined . . ."))

Rejections Based On Prior Art:

Claims 22 and 25-39 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious in view of US Patent No. 6,238,942 to Farnworth and US. Patent No. 6,329,832 to Cobbley. As discussed above, claim 22 has been amended to include the features of claim 47, which was not rejected but was identified as containing allowable subject matter. Claims 25-39 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 22. Claims 22 and 25-39 should therefore clearly be in condition for allowance.

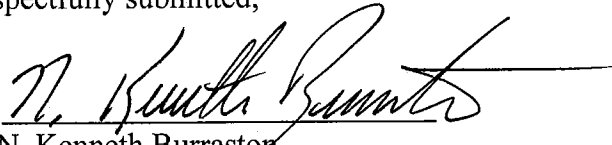
Conclusion:

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all objections and rejections are overcome and all of the pending claims are allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a discussion with Applicant's attorney would be helpful, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (801) 323-5934.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 5, 2006

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